

VICTORY in their last three fixtures of the season will ensure Wycombe Wanderers of the Rothmans Isthmian League title.

That's the situation after Saturday's results which saw the Blues emerge as new favourites for the championship. Before those results, Wycombe could have taken the title on goal difference but with both Enfield and Dagenham dropping two points, Wanderers can now clinch Division One by a minimum two points.

Neither of Saturday's results concerning the other contenders were particularly surprising. Croydon had beaten both Wycombe and Dagenham at home and their 0-0 draw with Enfield was the most important of the two. Had Enfield won at the Stadium, they would have been nicely placed for their final two games.

Dagenham's 1-1 draw at Hayes was predictable as the latter are struggling to avoid the drop to Division Two.

But although Wycombe are now looking good for the title, they cannot afford to slip up in their remaining games. None of them will be easy, either.

Walthamstow will prove tough on a difficult pitch tonight (Tuesday) while on Saturday, the Blues face what is likely to be their hardest test — the away trip to Tooting, who were 5-0 winners over Hitchin on Saturday.

Enfield's remaining games are at home to Sutton United on Saturday and away to Slough on May 7. Obviously, the trip to Wexham Park is

the crunch match here and Enfield are bound to struggle for three points.

Success in the F.A. Trophy and Rothmans Isthmian League Cup means Dagenham have two to three matches a week to fulfil their programme. On Thursday they are at home to Staines, whom they visit on Saturday. Next Thursday they visit Tooting while on May 7 they are at home to

the same club. The two Tooting games will prove difficult for the Daggers who must have their minds on the Trophy final where they meet the winners of the Scarborough v Altrincham marathon.

So it is really up to Wycombe Wanderers to maintain their current winning run, which has seen them win their last four league games.

Whatever happens tonight at Walthamstow, at Tooting on Saturday and at home to Dulwich on May 7, the Blues are now almost assured of at least third place in the table, a spot which carries a £300 prize from the sponsors. Their current 77 points puts them clear of all but Slough of the club's outside the top three. And even if they draw one of the games, they could still clinch the championship on goal difference.

For Wycombe to take their fifth title in seven years would be a remarkable feat particularly as their squad is generally regarded as one of the weakest during the last seven seasons.

The target has now been set. Three wins . . . nine points . . . the league title. It's up to Wycombe now.

LATEST TABLE

ROTHMANS ISTMHIAN LEAGUE
DIVISION ONE
(Up to and inc. 25/4/77)

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts | Pen Pts | C | D |
|---------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|---------|---|---|
| Enfield | 40 | 22 | 12 | 6 | 59 | 33 | 78 | 5 | 4 | |
| Wycombe Wnds | 39 | 23 | 8 | 8 | 63 | 29 | 77 | 1 | 0 | |
| Dagenham | 38 | 21 | 9 | 8 | 69 | 33 | 72 | 3 | 0 | |
| Tilbury | 39 | 17 | 13 | 9 | 55 | 44 | 64 | 6 | 4 | |
| Leatherhead | 39 | 18 | 7 | 15 | 60 | 43 | 61 | 3 | 0 | |
| Tooting and Mitcham | 38 | 17 | 10 | 11 | 77 | 80 | 61 | 8 | 0 | |
| Hendon | 38 | 17 | 9 | 12 | 54 | 43 | 60 | 3 | 0 | |
| Hitchin Town | 37 | 18 | 5 | 14 | 53 | 56 | 59 | 3 | 0 | |
| Walthamstow Ave | 37 | 16 | 6 | 15 | 55 | 54 | 54 | 8 | 0 | |
| Barking | 39 | 15 | 8 | 16 | 58 | 57 | 53 | 4 | 0 | |
| Staines Town | 33 | 14 | 10 | 10 | 40 | 34 | 52 | 2 | 0 | |
| Southall | 40 | 14 | 7 | 19 | 50 | 63 | 52 | 9 | 4 | |
| Slough Town | 33 | 15 | 6 | 12 | 42 | 38 | 51 | 1 | 0 | |
| Leytonstone | 39 | 13 | 11 | 15 | 53 | 54 | 50 | 7 | 8 | |
| Sutton Utd | 40 | 14 | 7 | 19 | 40 | 53 | 49 | 2 | 0 | |
| Croydon | 39 | 13 | 7 | 19 | 34 | 46 | 47 | 3 | 0 | |
| Woking | 40 | 11 | 11 | 18 | 46 | 59 | 45 | 6 | 4 | |
| Bishop's Stortford | 39 | 12 | 9 | 19 | 47 | 56 | 42 | 1 | 4 | |
| Kingstonian | 42 | 13 | 7 | 22 | 45 | 60 | 42 | 8 | 0 | |
| Hayes | 38 | 10 | 9 | 19 | 43 | 65 | 39 | 1 | 4 | |
| Ilford | 40 | 9 | 8 | 23 | 29 | 70 | 35 | 12 | 4 | |
| Dulwich Hamlet | 37 | 8 | 8 | 21 | 42 | 59 | 32 | 1 | 4 | |